

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARIS 04686 01 OF 02 171522Z

53

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07

L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02

FEAE-00 INT-05 PA-02 PRS-01 DLOS-04 ACDA-10 AGR-10

CEA-01 CG-00 CIEP-02 DOTE-00 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 JUSE-00 OMB-01 SAL-01 /158 W

----- 117192

R 171501Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7898

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL BARCELONA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL NICE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 04686

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 04686 01 OF 02 171522Z

ATTN: OES/EN HERTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNEP

SUBJECT: BARCELONA CONFERENCE ON MEDITERRANEAN
POLLUTION

1. SUMMARY. COASTAL STATES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA MET AT BARCELONA FEBRUARY 2-16, 1976 AND AGREED ON A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AGAINST POLLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND TWO SUBORDINATE PROTOCOLS, ON THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA BY DUMPING FROM SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT, AND ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING POLLUTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA BY OIL AND OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN CASES OF EMERGENCY. THE CONFERENCE WAS CONVENED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, WHICH WILL PERFORM SECRETARIAT FUNCTION UNDER THE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS, AND INCLUDED AS PARTICIPATING STATES CYPRUS, EGYPT, FRANCE, GREECE, ISRAEL, ITALY, LEBANON, LIBYA, MALTA, MONACO, MOROCCO, SPAIN, SYRIA, TUNISIA, TURKEY, AND YUGOSLAVIA; ALBANIA AND ALGERIA WERE INVITED BUT DID NOT ATTEND. THE USSR, UK, AND USA WERE REPRESENTED BY OBSERVER DELEGATIONS; THE UN AND MANY OF ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES--THE COMMISSION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, THE OECD, AND THE ARAB LEAGUE--ALSO WERE REPRESENTED BY OBSERVERS. THE CONVENTION AND THE TWO PROTOCOLS WERE OPENED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN AS DEPOSITORY FOR SIGNATURE AT BARCELONA ON FEBRUARY 16, 1976. SYRIA DID NOT SIGN THE FINAL ACT OF THE MEETING ON THE CONVENTION OR PROTOCOLS. ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS SIGNED THE FINAL ACT AND, EXCEPT FOR LIBYA, TUNISIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA, THE CONVENTION AND THE TWO PROTOCOLS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 4, 1975 AT BARCELONA, THE MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL STATES MET AND DEVELOPED THE SCOPE OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION AND THE SUBORDINATE PROTOCOLS. FOLLOWING THAT SESSION SEVERAL EXPERT MEETINGS FURTHERED THE DETAILS OF THE ACCORDS AND A
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PARIS 04686 01 OF 02 171522Z

UNEP ACTION PLAN ON POLLUTION CONTROL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA. THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (BARCELONA II) HELD FEBRUARY 2-16, 1976 CONCLUDED THE WORK ON THE ACCORDS AND AGREED TO SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS ON POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE COASTAL STATES TOGETHER WITH UNEP AND IMCO. SPAIN IS DEPOSITORY AND UNEP WILL UNDERTAKE THE SECRETARIAT FUNCTIONS FOR THE AGREEMENTS.

3. IN THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION PARTIES AGREE TO TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT, ABATE, AND COMBAT POLLUTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA, CAUSED BY DUMPING FROM SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT, CAUSED BY SHIP OPERATION (PER IMCO AGREEMENTS), CAUSED BY EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE SEABED, FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES, AND TO COOPERATE IN POLLUTION EMERGENCIES, IN DEVELOPING POLLUTION MONITORING SYSTEMS, IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE. SUBORDINATE PROTOCOLS DEAL WITH DETAILS ON DUMPING CONTROL AND COOPERATION IN POLLUTION EMERGENCIES; FUTURE PROTOCOLS ARE TO DEAL WITH OTHER ASPECTS SUCH AS LAND-BASED SOURCES OF POLLUTION. THE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS ARE OPEN FOR SIGNATURE TO THE 18 COASTAL STATES INVITED TO THE BARCELONA CONFERENCE. AFTER THAT DATE THE ACCORDS ARE OPEN FOR ACCESSION BY THOSE STATES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARIS 04686 02 OF 02 171523Z

53

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07

L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02

FEAE-00 INT-05 PA-02 PRS-01 DLOS-04 SAL-01 ACDA-10

AGR-10 CEA-01 CG-00 CIEP-02 DOTE-00 ERDA-07 FMC-02

TRSE-00 H-02 JUSE-00 OMB-01 /158 W

----- 117207

R 171501Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7899

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL BARCELONA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL NICE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 04686

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 04686 02 OF 02 171523Z

AND, AFTER THEY HAVE ENTERED INTO FORCE, BY ANY OTHER STATE SUBJECT TO PRIOR APPROVAL OF THREE-FOURTHS OF THE PARTIES TO THE ACCORD. A PARTY TO THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION MUST ALSO BE PARTY TO AT LEAST ONE PROTOCOL.

4. THE PROTOCOL ON DUMPING CONTROL IS VERY SIMILAR TO THE 1972 LONDON CONVENTION ON OCEAN DUMPING, CALLING ON PARTIES TO ESTABLISH GENERAL AND SPECIAL PERMITS AND TO PROHIBIT THE DUMPING OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES. IN ADDITION TO THE ITEMS ON THE PROHIBITED LIST OF THE LONDON CONVENTION, LOW- AND MEDIUM-LEVEL (AS WELL AS HIGH-LEVEL) RADIOACTIVE MATTER IS BANNED, AS ARE ACID AND ALKALINE COMPOUNDS OF SUCH COMPOSITION AND QUANTITIES TO SERIOUSLY IMPAIR THE SEA. THIS PROTOCOL DOES NOT APPLY TO SHIPS OR AIRCRAFT OWNED OR OPERATED BY A PARTY USED ON NON-COMMERCIAL SERVICE (E.G., WARSHIPS).

5. IN THE PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING POLLUTION EMERGENCIES, PARTIES AGREE TO COORDINATE CONTINGENCY PLANS, EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON EMERGENCIES, COOPERATE WITH THE REGIONAL CENTER (PROPOSED TO BE MALTA) AND TO CALL ON OTHER PARTIES FOR ASSISTANCE WHEN NECESSARY.

6. THE BARCELONA MEETING WAS CONDUCTED WITHOUT NOTICEABLE EFFECT BY CURRENT AREA POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. ARAB STATES INSISTED ON LANGUAGE THAT WOULD NOT

REQUIRE PARTIES TO CONTACT ANOTHER STATE IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY. FRANCE AND ITALY SUCCESSFULLY ARGUED FOR THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TO BE PERMITTED TO SIGN THE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS; EGYPT, TUNISIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA INITIALLY OBJECTED. AS A RESULT THE EEC AND ANY SIMILAR REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPING WITH AT LEAST ONE MEMBER A COASTAL STATE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN MAY SIGN AND VOTE INSTEAD OF ITS COASTAL STATE MEMBER(S) WHERE IT HAS COMPETENCE. NO LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES SURFACED AS THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION STATES THAT NOTHING THEREIN SHALL PREJUDICE THE DEVELOPMENT AND CODIFICATION OF THE LOS. THE SOVIET OBSERVER
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PARIS 04686 02 OF 02 171523Z

DELEGATION (THREE FROM MOSCOW, ONE FROM MADRID) TOLD THE CONFERENCE OF ITS REGRET AT NOT BEING A PARTICIPANT IN THE CONFERENCE; THEY RECALLED THE 1937 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE AT NYON.

7. BY RESOLUTION, THE CONFERENCE CALLS UPON UNEP TO DEVELOP A PROTOCOL ON LAND-BASED POLLUTION CONTROL AND TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS TOWARD THE OBJECTS OF THE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS, CALLS UPON PARTIES TO THE DUMPING PROTOCOL TO PREVAIL UPON OTHER STATES TO HAVE THEIR FLAGSHIPS OBSERVE THE OPERATIVE ARTICLES OF THE PROTOCOL, REQUESTS PARTIES TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN INTERSTATE GUARANTEE FUND (FRANCE RESERVED ON THIS RESOLUTION), CALLS ON SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT TO HELP IN REPORTING POLLUTION EMERGENCIES, ACCEPTS MALTA'S OFFER TO HOST A REGIONAL OIL-COMBATTING CENTER, ASKS UNEP TO STUDY POSSIBLE SUB-REGIONAL CENTERS, ACCEPTS MONACO'S INVITATION TO HOST AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING IN 1977 CONVENED BY UNEP TO ASSESS THE PROGRESS IN THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.

8. COPIES OF THE CONVENTION, PROTOCOLS, AND RESOLUTIONS WILL BE SENT TO ADDRESSEES. RECORDS OF THE MEETING WILL BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OES/EN.
RUSH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS04686
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760059-0074
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760243/aaaablou.tel
Line Count: 268
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <03 SEP 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BARCELONA CONFERENCE ON MEDITERRANEAN POLLUTION
TAGS: OCON, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006